March 17, 2021

Dear Members of the Education Committee,

As an educator and parent, I am writing to ask you *not* to support HB6620. HB6620 would not honor the knowledge, professional judgement, and potential of teachers, school leaders, and local school boards. It would require all districts allocate funds for new K-5 literacy curricula rather than on improving what they have, focusing on other content, supporting specific student groups, or continuing to develop the inclusive, antiracist pedagogies we desperately need. We need investment in educators and infrastructure to deliver instruction to students, not new curriculum.

Related, educators throughout Connecticut have invested years and funding building capacity for student-centered, culturally responsive approaches, but HB660 would limit districts to options like Amplify's CKLA which has a track record of euro-centric content without representation of minorities. This would negate the investment educators have made in this important work.

Please do *not* vote for HB6620.

Thank you,

Hannah Dostal Old Saybrook, CT